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NAME: **EXAMINER M.G. HAMILTON, GROUP ART UNIT 3131**
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FAX NO: **(703) 872-9306**
REMARKS: **Serial No. 09/684,488, filed 10/04/2000**
Attached hereto is a Request for Continued Examination, including a Preliminary Amendment, for filing with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Total Number of Pages (Including This One): **NINETEEN (19)**

FROM: Mark E. Scott, Direct Dial No. 713/238-8049

DATE: July 12, 2004

CLIENT/MATTER NO. 2162-10500 (10992482-1)

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**CONTINUED EXAMINATION TRANSMITTAL
(RCE) (37 CFR 1.114) (continued)**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10992482-1**ORIGINAL**☒ RCE filing fee \$770.00☐ A Petition for Extension of Time

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Number of pages: **18**Typed Name: **Christina L. Paz**Signature: Christina L. Paz

Respectfully submitted,

Bin ZHANG et al.By Mark E. Scott**Mark E. Scott**

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. **43,100**Date: **07/12/2004**Telephone No.: **(713) 238-8000**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants:	Bin ZHANG et al.	§	Confirmation No.:	3131
Serial No.:	09/684,488	§	Group Art Unit:	2135
Filed:	10/04/2000	§	Examiner:	M. G. Hamilton
For:	Aggregated Clustering Method And System	§	Docket No.:	10992482-1
		§		
		§		
		§		

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: July 12, 2004

Sir:

In response to the final Office action of May 17, 2004, please enter this Preliminary Amendment and corresponding Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") and amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.